



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ALEX VILLANUEVA, SHERIFF



February 19, 2019

Caroline Haskins  
[63101-21886890@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:63101-21886890@requests.muckrock.com)

Dear Ms. Haskins:

This letter is in response to your request for records under the California Public Records Act received by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Discovery Unit on November 1, 2018.

In your request, you are seeking the following:

- "Recent media reports suggest that the Topanga Community Police Station has made use of or will make use of Predpol predictive policing software (<https://boingboing.net/2018/10/30/el-monte-and-tacoma.html>), as the station has a Predpol login portal (<https://topanga.predpol.com/login/>)."
- "Therefore, I am requesting the following records related to the above program:
  1. "Any software and algorithms developed for the implementation of the program. I'm particularly interested in any algorithms that have a public policy outcome, such as providing guidance on a policy or an assessment of an individual. More generally, I would like any software that was developed by or with, given to, used by, purchased or licensed to this agency for implementation of the above referenced program. This would include original source code, any compiled binaries (also known as executables), spreadsheets, program scripts, and other digital materials used to calculate any data in the above program. It would also include the input training data for machine learning algorithms. Collectively, these responsive materials will be referred to as "the software" in the following paragraphs."

211 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

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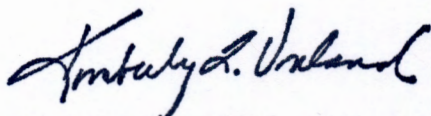
2. "All instructional materials, presentations and presentation materials (including recorded video and audio, PowerPoint files, prepared remarks, and slides formats), and other guidance on the use of "the software." This includes any notes taking during meetings that discussed the use of the software, any explanations (whether internally or externally generated) of how the software works, and any other document that has been used to help explain the use of "the software" to any party, including internal documentation, public relations materials, and executive summaries. This also includes any description of input and output data fields that will aid in understanding the type of information that is submitted to the software, and that is produced by the software."
3. "A copy of any privacy impact assessments, use policies, standard operating procedures, data retention policies, legal opinions, warranties, non-disclosure agreements, contracts, liability waivers, insurance agreements, Requests for Proposals, Responses to Requests for Proposal, Memorandums of Understanding, Letters of Interest, usage policies, or informal agreements that reference "the software" or otherwise guide its use or the relationship between this agency and the provider or developer of the software."
4. "A copy of any funding opportunity announcements, grant applications and grantor status/progress reports, reports to legislative bodies, annual reports that mention the use of the Software, as well as audit records, including but not limited to security audits of the software, misuse reports, and reports to oversight bodies."
5. "A copy of any validation studies conducted with respect to the program or with respect to any software or algorithms used in connection with the program, and a copy of any records pertaining to inquiries for the need of validation studies, or discussion of potential or actual validation studies. By "validation study," I mean any study designed to assess how accurate the program is in predicting what it is supposed to predict, or to assess whether the program may err in the direction of either under- or overestimating likelihoods or predicted outcomes, or may produce any results that are biased or unexpected in any way."
6. "For the aspects of the software that require an input, for example, to compute a value, we request a copy of the five most recent sets of data that were used for input, as well as the five most recent outputs of the software, in whatever their native format is. If these inputs or outputs include exempt information, we ask that you exempt only that information which is specifically exempted from law, and provide the other material."

Response: LASD has no records responsive to your request.

If you have any questions, please contact Lieutenant Smeltzer of the Discovery Unit at (323) 890-5000.

Sincerely,

ALEX VILLANUEVA, SHERIFF

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kimberly L. Unland". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'K' and 'U'.

Kimberly L. Unland, Captain  
Risk Management Bureau